

# Conservation Security Program



*You've been  
taking care  
of natural  
resources  
on your  
land for  
years...  
  
...now,  
you have a  
chance to be  
financially  
rewarded  
for your  
work.*

## Conservation Security Program Overview

The Conservation Security Program (CSP) was authorized by the 2002 Farm Bill to reward farmers and ranchers who are implementing conservation on America's working lands. CSP is a voluntary program based on conservation accomplishments that recognizes the contributions of the best land stewards and encourages them to do more.

CSP rounds out a portfolio of conservation for America's farmers and ranchers. CSP is helping producers improve management of private lands through NRCS conservation services and programs to sustain past environmental gains, address current resource problems, and provide for regulatory relief.

## The Watershed Approach

To provide the best service possible to producers, the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is implementing CSP on a watershed basis. Focusing on high priority watersheds allows NRCS to provide quality service to more applicants than if the program were implemented nationwide because of limits on both program and technical assistance funding in Fiscal Year 2005.

CSP is being offered in watersheds across the country. The Mid-Columbia - Hood River Watershed has been chosen as a 2005 priority watershed.

## Signing up for CSP

Applicants will be selected at the national level for the 2005 sign-up. The fact sheet entitled "CSP Eligibility, Qualification and Application Steps" contains detailed information about applying for CSP. Generally, to apply, land managers will need to complete the following steps:

### Before the Signup Begins:

1. Complete a Self-Assessment Workbook.
2. Gather appropriate records and documentation
3. Contact your local Farm Service Agency to receive a USDA (also called SCIMS) Identification Number

### Once the Signup Begins:

4. Attend a Self-Assessment workshop to learn more about CSP and receive assistance in finalizing your self-assessment workbook.
5. Set up an appointment with your Local NRCS staff to confirm your eligibility, documentation and determine your enrollment category
6. Submit your Conservation Stewardship Plan
7. If you are selected for funding, complete your Conservation Stewardship Contract

For additional information on the Conservation Security Program in Oregon go to [www.or.nrcs.usda.gov](http://www.or.nrcs.usda.gov).

# Conservation Security Program in Mid Columbia-Hood



## *Mid Columbia- Hood River Watershed*

### Acres:

Total - 1,380,417

Private Land - 720,207

Tribal Land - 3,363

### Land Use Acres:

Cropland - 151,127

Pastureland - 75,507

Orchards/Vineyards - 46,097

Rangeland - 129,492

Forestland - 311,598

### 875 Working Farms

### Major Commodities:

Wheat & Barley

Cattle & Hay

Pears, Apples, Cherries

### For More Information

### Contact the Local NRCS

### Field Office:

Hood River 541-386-2815

The Dalles 541-298-8559

Moro 541-565-3551

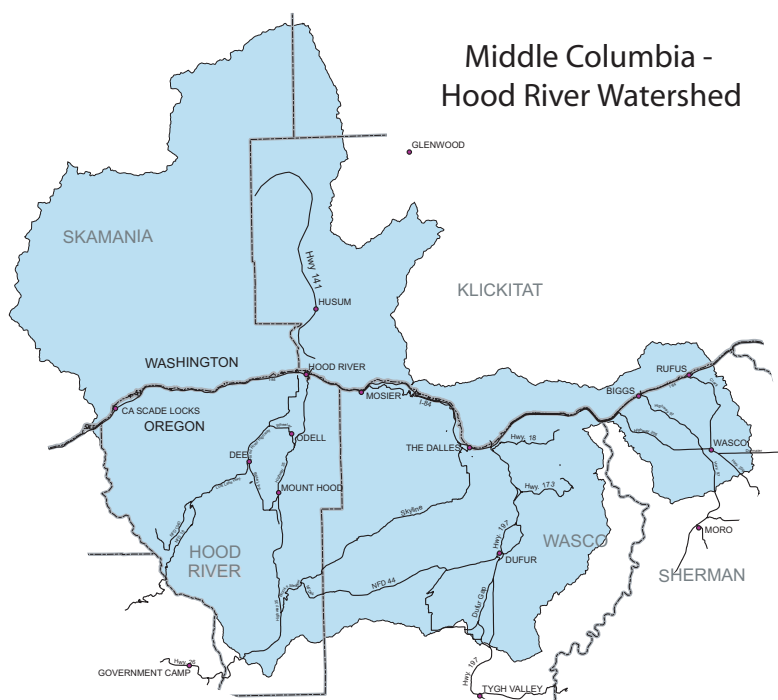
## CSP 2005 in the Mid Columbia-Hood River Watershed

The Mid Columbia-Hood River Watershed includes land in Oregon and Washington that drains directly into the Columbia River beginning generally, at the Bonneville Dam and moving eastwards to the John Day Dam.

The Mid Columbia-Hood River Watershed was created near the end of the Ice Age when Lake Missoula's glacial dam broke, creating flooding and sediment deposits from Montana to the Pacific Ocean. As a result, the watershed is made up of shallow to very deep well drained silt loam soils creating an environment that is prone to wind and water soil erosion.

The Hood River and several creeks flow through the watershed and into the Columbia River creating habitat for three ESA-listed species including salmon, steelhead and bald eagles. Much of the western portion is forested public lands, while the remainder is rangelands, irrigated orchards or pastures and dryland wheat. Irrigated orchards and pastures are predominately located in the Hood River Valley and The Dalles area adjacent to the Columbia River.

The Mid Columbia-Hood River Watershed does include ceded lands of the Yakama and Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs Nations.



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